

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF CHAIRPERSONS
OCTOBER 21, 2013 – 6:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX – COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Scott, Stebbins, Williams Pritchard, Martin, Rafferty, Sutherland, Obrey, Sherrard (6:32 p.m.)

Staff: Murphy, Quinn, Norris, Gilot

Others Present: Munn

Acting Chairperson Pritchard called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF April 15, 2013

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 15, 2013

Motion made by Scott, seconded by Rafferty. Motion passed 6-0-2, 2 abstentions (Stebbins, Williams).

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Ethics Ordinance – Discussion

This item was kept on the agenda at the request of the Committee at the April meeting, but staff had no update at this time. Staff will get an update from the Council for the next meeting.

2. Blight Ordinance – Update

Staff distributed a draft brochure developed by the Inspection Services Division, titled “Blight Ordinance FAQ”. Staff discussed the definition of blight, the history and intent of the ordinance. At the request of the Council, the ordinance was developed in response to citizen complaints about some blighted properties in the Town. Staff discussed briefly- overgrown parking lots, naturalized areas, and various site conditions that would be considered blight. Enforcement and a citation system are in the process of being developed by Inspection Services. A Hearing Officer(s) or panel must be established, and a fine system will be developed. Staff has already taken some complaints, and letters requesting compliance are going out to the owners.

3. Burnett’s Corners Demolition – Update

Staff discussed the history of the property and the demolition process and showed a short video of the building demolition.

4. Mystic Streetscape Phase II

Staff reviewed maps and photos of the existing conditions and proposed construction. The location and highlights of the project were explained for the Committee. Additional parking, a parklet, utilities, landscaping, sidewalks and

improvements to the intersection of New London Road were shown. The project is out to bid; 9 contractors attended a pre-bid meeting last week. The bid opening will be October 31, 2013. Construction is anticipated to begin in early spring. Staff said an explanation and maps are available on the Town's website. Parking arrangements for the Oyster Club on Water Street were discussed. Staff said the project will provide 7 additional parking spaces on Water Street. Completion date is anticipated to be June 27, 2014 (about 100 days). Plans and specs are available in the Planning Department if anyone would like to view them in greater detail.

5. 2014 Meeting Schedule

MOTION: To adopt the 2014 Meeting Schedule as presented.

Motion made by Scott, seconded by Rafferty. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Identification of Topics for Discussion

The Committee identified the following items of interest for discussion at the next meeting.

Blight ordinance update

An update on the Ethics will be put on the next agenda

Spicer property/Parks and Rec update (photos, highlights).

Thomas Road bikeway update

Thames Street update (staff will ask the Town Manager). Obrey gave a brief update on the project to date.

V. OLD BUSINESS – None

VI. REPORT OF CHAIRPERSONS

Rafferty asked about the "green wall". Staff gave an update on the Central Hall project. The plan still has not been recorded; the Planning Commission recently granted the applicants a four month extension for recording of the plans. Easements also still need to be finalized and recorded.

Applications for a private floating dock and pier on the public access way were submitted by the Central Hall principals to the Harbor Management Commission and Shellfish Commission. Staff said they would still need Planning Commission approval.

VII. REPORT OF STAFF

Staff explained the C-PACE program to the Committee, and the Town's role in the program. C-PACE is a financing program for energy reduction projects for businesses, with backing from the State. Some businesses have already submitted applications to CEFIA, the group which oversees the program and finances improvements.

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VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn was made by Stebbins, seconded by Williams, so voted unanimously at 6:54 p.m.

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